

in various parts of the city and State, where there is now absolutely no place for such purpose. Bloomingdale is overcrowded and about to be removed from the city. The method will lead to greater individualization, a deeper scientific study of insanity, and the training of nurses and practitioners for the better recognition and care of insane patients in their own homes, and many will recover without having attached to their name and reputation the inevitable stigma of having been in an asylum.—*N. Y. Med. Journal*, Feb. 22, 1890.

Book Reviews.

A TREATISE ON HEADACHE AND NEURALGIA, including Spinal Irritation and a Disquisition on Normal and Morbid Sleep. By J. Leonard Corning, M.A., M.D., Consultant in Nervous Diseases to St. Francis' Hospital, the Hackensack Hospital, etc., etc. With an Appendix: EYE-STRAIN, a Cause of Headache. By David Webster, M.D., Professor of Ophthalmology in the New York Polyclinic; Surgeon to the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, etc. E. B. Treat & Co., Second Edition.

No physician of average intelligence can fail to extract enjoyment from the perusal of this, the second edition of Dr. Corning's book on Headache and Neuralgia. For several years past this accomplished physician has devoted much attention to the practical management of pain; indeed, no one among the present generation of physicians in this country, it is safe to say, has written or accomplished as much in this important field. We say accomplished, since the author of this volume is not only endowed with keen perceptive power and rare originality, but likewise with a forcefulness and lucidity of style which facilitates the transfer of knowledge, and renders the perusal of his writings rather a pleasure than a task.

Space does not permit us to review in detail this excellent volume; but we have no hesitation in saying, that in no other monograph on headache with which we are acquainted is so much that is original and practical to be found. Many of the suggestions, regarding the management of pain, whether intra-cranial, extra-cranial, spinal or neural in its origin, is in the highest degree original and suggestive.

As regards Dr. Webster's appendix on Eye-Strain as a cause of headache, we have likewise only words of commendation to offer.

The first chapter of this part of the book treats of "Headaches dependent upon Errors of Refraction;" the second deals with "Headaches dependent upon Impaired Accommodation;" the third is devoted to "Headaches dependent upon Insufficiency of the Extrinsic Ocular Muscles;" and the fourth and final chapter gives a series of cases illustrative of the efficiency of "Graduated Tenotomy of the Ocular Muscles," when the conditions are such as to warrant operative interference of this sort.

In contradistinction to much of the recent literature on this subject, Dr. Webster's statements are eminently cautious and conservative. While cheerfully recognizing the importance of eliminating morbid conditions of the eyes as an adjunct in the treatment of minor functional disturbances, he is careful not to jeopardize the authority of his position by that short-sighted exaggeration which is the true birthmark of a weak judgment.

While cordially recommending this excellent treatise, we heartily congratulate both Dr. Webster and Dr. Corning on the admirable manner in which each has performed that portion of the allotted task for which he is so admirably suited.

PRACTICAL ELECTRICITY IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

By G. A. Liebig, Jr., Ph.D., and George H. Rohé, M.D.
Illustrated. F. A. Davis, Publisher. 383 pages. Price,
\$2.00 net.

This most excellent book is divided into three parts. Part I. is devoted to physics and, as well, discusses the various forms of electrical apparatus likely to be of use to the general physician.

Part II. is physiological. The variations of reaction in disease and the diagnostic value of these modifications is here discussed.

Part III. is therapeutical.

The authors make no claims to originality, and state that they "have endeavored to place in the hands of the student and practitioner an intelligible account of the science of electricity and a trustworthy guide to its applications in the practice of medicine and surgery." The work undoubtedly deserves a place on the bookshelves of every doctor who desires to inform himself on electricity. To be read carefully as to its physics, physiological and diagnostic data. The instruments recommended are certainly the best in their way. The authors at least deserve credit in not pushing theoretical deductions as to therapeutical value to absurd length. This part of the book is concise, and contains the latest accepted views as to the practical application to various morbid conditions. So much rubbish has been allowed to enter this part of books on electricity that the reviewer had hoped that positive and original clinical observation by the author would have made it more concise in some parts and more at length in others. The book is certainly, however, a scientific guide and will not mislead the student or disappoint the physician. It is well printed and fully illustrated.